

Presidents Message

Watch for the New Presidents Message coming in February!

Here are your elected members that will part of the Leadership 2001 Team.

As you can see there are still some openings for our team members.

Would you like to give us a hand this year?

Also, we are always looking for news-worthy stories please submit them and we'll include them in future issues unless the material is time-sensitive then it goes in right away!

We look forward to our first meeting in January!

See you then!

SBARA Leadership 2001 Officers

President
Vacant

Vice President
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Nathan Lau - KF6UQR

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Bill....
WB9YVM
Newsletter Editor and
the rest of the 2001
Leadership team Offi-
cers

January Program Announcement

Cansats and Cubesats; How they can be used to excite children about science and encourage careers in science and to become amateur radio operators.

Presenter: Bill Rausch AA6PA

Come and meet your fellow Members and Welcome the new 2001 SBARA Of-
ficers.

The meeting year kicks-
off on Wednesday Janu-
ary , 2001

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SBARA Club Officer 2001 Vacancies

Have You Thought About Being A Club Officer

Thanks to our 2000 Nominating Committee for their fine job in our 2001 Candidate selections. Thanks James, Syd and Joann!

There are still a few Officer vacancies that still need to be filled - Do YOU want to help the new Century team members?

If so, please contact any of the officers and we can help you.

SBARA 2000 Holiday Party & Dinner

By—William Artelt—WB9YVM

**The 2000 SBARA Holiday Party
Pictures of all the Party Goers...**

Thanks to Lucia's for Hosting and to Everyone for Making it A Big Success



GPS Tracker Box

By — James Lee — N1DDK

Attention SBARA and FARTS members!!

I would like to hold a "workshop" for building a display and converter unit for the "el-cheapo" GPS units Harry found. This unit provides Five functions:

- 1) It converts the el-cheapo GPS to NMEA mode.
- 2) It is a Transmit only TNC for APRS.
- 3) It simplifies and consolidates the cabling for a "Tracker box".
- 4) It provides a simple display for the GPS.
- 5) It allows the MiTac to be used with other computer programs such as Delorme Street Atlas and Microsoft Streets and Trips. By the way this will work for the MiTac GPS and any other SiRF based GPS.

How does it work?

With the help of AD6IL, we figured out how to re-initialize SiRF into NMEA mode. The software for converting the SiRF GPS into NMEA was ported to a Microchip PIC. I added display functions to check the data. A 4 line LCD displays the position and number of satellites received.

The TNC functions are provided by a second PIC. Basically the TinyTrak, see: <http://www.byonics.com/> has been added to the board.

Overall cabling is simplified by using three dedicated connectors with standard connections. Once connector is for the GPS. It can provide power to the GPS, simplifying power cabling by allowing the GPS power cord to be cut off. A second connector is for an optional PC. The PC is used for initial programming, and can be used to receive the NMEA strings for use with your favorite mapping software. A third connector is for the radio connections. The connector is Kantronics compatible, so you do not need to make radio cables if you would prefer to buy cables. Internal jumpers provide for a superset of Kantronics functionality. A jumper combines the audio and PTT functions for simple connection to a HT. The Radio connector also allows for the Mike-E PTT input function or power input functions. If you provide power on the radio connector, connections are as simple as just plugging in the three cables. +7 to +15 volts can be provided either on the radio connector or via a dedicated power cable.

So why am I telling all of you all of this? Well if we are going to do this as a workshop I will need advance sign-ups and payments. It is estimated that the cost will be \$55. I would like to cut off sign-ups shortly after the January SBARA meeting, and start ordering the parts.

To sign-up, I will need \$40 in advance to cover most of the parts orders. I would also like one or two volunteers to help with the workshop. I would like the volunteer helpers to pre-assemble their "kits" so they can help others.

Please feel free to ask me any questions, and sign-ups will be taken in advance or at the SBARA meeting,

-- James N1DDK

Newark Communications Volunteers

By Robin Kinney—

Meeting Minutes from the 12/10/2000 Meeting

- ? We met at Newark's Service Center (Emergency Operations Center), 3740 Filbert St. The meeting was primarily a small training session to familiarize or refamiliarize everyone with the location, antennas, feed line, and city-owned radio. It was also an opportunity to dust off the cobwebs of this equipment. Attendance was very high and I'd like to thank everyone for coming. We also performed an informal inventory of the equipment in the cabinet.
- ? No formal business was discussed.

Late Breaking News

- ? None

Agenda for the January 10th Meeting

We will meet at our regular date and time, second Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 p.m. in the basement of City Administration Bldg., 37101 Newark Blvd.

- ? Paul Carlin, KE6NVU, ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator will be our guest. Paul will be discussing the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Race. B2V is one of the best training exercises we have available to us as emergency coordinators. Paul's talk will discuss all aspects of the event as well as being a call for volunteers for this year's race on April 7th and 8th.

Robin Kinney

SBARA Holiday Photo Album

Thanks to James Lee—N1DDK For the Photos



SBARA Holiday Photo Album

Thanks to James Lee—N1DDK For the Photos





Repeater



Duplexer Assembly



Radio



Site Home



Pager—Skytel



Tower

SBARA 147.015 Photo Album

Thanks to James Lee—N1DDK For the Photos

Ham Radio to the World .-..-

*On the Web at
www.qsl.net/sbara*

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